SONS OF THE PILGRIMS.

Continued from Second Page.

THE TOWNSHIP AND THE CITY. Whatever value my words may have will be because they come from a man who comes to you from the workshop and not from the study. So of the New-England ships I cannot expect in a gathering like this to peak at length. There are men here who have forgotten

townships I cannot expect in a gathering like this to speak at length. There are men here who have forgotten about the New-England townships probably more than I ever knew. And yet I want to trace in a few words, if you will bear with me, some thoughts from the New-England township to the modern city. Nor do I come in the spirit of the child, the daughter of a clergyman, who excused her father from seeing visitors by saying to them that he was busy writing bis sermon, but if their subject of inquiry was anything concerning the plan of salvation she would be very happy to answer them, for she knew all about it. I come in no such spirit, gentlemen, but only to speak of that of which for the moment my life is full,—the care of a great city in these times. Now what of the New-England townships f it seems to me that they stood for one or two things that are pretty clear and distinct. First of all they were planted upon faith in men. Then they strove to procure good government, and they did get good government, good government, and they did get good government, for their state, and good government for themselves, good government, for their flate, and good government for themselves, good government for themselves in the community: and then they did that which appears upon its face to be just the opposite of that for which in my own thought: somewhat stand in city administration. They took the power and subdivided it up among numbers of little offices. As I read, they always gave to their officer enough power to do the work that that officer was expected to do; but they interested the community very much as boys interest themselves in a company of soldiers, by making a great many officers and having comparatively few privates. That they did in the small towns, and the well-known saying of De Toequeville reads in this way:

"Municipal institutions constitute the strength of free

reads in this way:

"Municipal institutions constitute the strength of free
mations. Town meetings are to liberty what primary
schools are to science. They bring it within the people's
reach. They teach men how to use and how to enjoy it."

DIVIDING THE RESPONSIBILIY. Now, those are the ends, if you please, of the New-England town meetings, and I want you to test the work and life of a great city in to test the work and life of a great city in our day by those tests and ask yourselves, does a city administered upon that idea of dividing responsibility meet those ends? Do you feel that such government as you have in the city of New-York such government as we have had in all our cities, such government as you have in the city of Philadelphia,—do you feel that in that sense municipal institutions to-day constitute the strength of our Republic? Are not thoughtful men rather saying to themselves: "See here! The population of the United States is drifting more and more into cities!" The day is not far distant when the contracting forces of the country will be there; and is it not just there that we seem to see the greatest weakness of the Republic and not the greatest strength!

while chiefs, and is it has to be the greatest weakness of the Republic and not the greatest strength!

Then it says "Town meetings are to liberty what primary schools are to science. They bring it within the people's reach. They teach men how to use it and how to enjoy it." By the mere multiplication of numbers town meetings become impossible in a city. We have no parallel to them; and we can not have, and I want to ask you that other question, do you believe, and do you teel, gentlemen, that in the life of a great city in these days, and in this country, the people, the whole body of the people are being taught how to use liberty and how to enjoy it! I ask this question, because it seems to me those go to the root of the matter. Those are what the New-England townships stood for and what they meant to gain, and I want to draw this conclusion, that the secret of getting those things is not in the mere division of power, but in something else.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TOWNSHIP AND CITY.

I want to ask your attention now to one other difference between the New-England townships and our cities in the Encland townships and our cities in the State of New York. The New-England township is an integral part of the Commonwealth. It bears the same relation to the State that the states bear to the National Union. It does not get its powers from the State. but it rather gives powers from the State. Some one has said that this local self government was historical before the Pilgrims landed in New-England. But what is the condition in our cities is we are the creatures of the State. The Legislature of New-York can wipe out your great city to-day if it so wishes. It can wipe out the city of Brooklyn. In the eyes of the State we are business corporations, and not townships according to the New-England idea. Therefore we suffer as we always have suffered; for of late years, all of us have suitered from continual changes in our organic law made at Albany by people whom we don't sent there for that purpose, who do not know our needs and who do not represent us, and yet they can take hold of the most vital concerns in your city and in mme and change the whole course of our daily life as cities. Therefore, you see, the conditions prevailing in the City of New-York to-day are vasily different hot only in the extent openualing but the result of the state. From the conditions prevailing in the New-England townships.

ownships.

Then again we have in these great cities not homogeneous population, but a population made up of every nation in the civilized working the two cuts where we ought to make public affairs more up of every batton in the events where we ought to make public affairs more clear, more simple, because they have got to be understood by people least familiar with our institutions, there we seem to nave endeavored to cont i e to make them complex and hard to understand. It seems to me that the metaod of controlling a great city has grown up, as it were, insdivergently from the New-England township the official of the second of the controlling and the second of the controlling as it were, insidvertently from the New-England townshipidea of division of responsibility. You see at, nor instance,
in Boston, which, I suppose, has grown to be a cuty from
the soil; there they have not only a Common Council but
a Board of Aldermen—two legislative bodies, one
to be a check on the other—besides a mayor.
They retain some such notion as that in
Philadelphia, and they carry the subdivision of power so
far there that there are seven different officials in that
City who have the authority to tear up the streets, and
not a single one upon whom the duty is laid distinctly to
put them down and keep them in repair. [Applause]

ON -HEADED BOARDS. One other point, gentlemen. I talink out of that old lew-England idea, the New-England township and multiplication of offices, has grown this idea of departments, sometimes-triple-headed, sometimes in one person, socalled, 'but never, or almost never, single-headed. called, but never, or almost never, single-headed. Now, gentlemen, let me ask your attention to a few thoughts on that point. Supposing you have a triple-headed department. If the Commissioners will take turns in the distribution of the patronage then you have a harmonious Board. If they won't, then you have two against one. I am speaking now of practical results not of theory—and when I say i speak of practical results of theory—and when I say i speak of practical results I speak of results I see and know of. If they won't take an even share then two form against one and you have a spectacle of a Board where one Commissioner is powerless and subject to the other two. But when you get a Board of four—a non-partisan Board encaded—then you have that condition of things which brings over the face of the pollucian that smile which "Mark Twalm" says came over the face of the man when he held four acces. It is such a fair thing—two of a kind. Of course it is non-partisan and it means that each party is equally cared for—each organization, if you please—but the people believe, me, almost never. I have seen Boards at the heads of departments of almost every kind, and I never saw yet a high degree of efficiency of amministration obtained in that way I have read that in a multitude of coansellors there is visdom; but I never yet read lors there is visdom; but I never yet read lors there is visdom; but I never yet read in multitude of administrative heads there was efficiency, economy and steagth. If the national government began putning the waoie care of the Post-office of the country and be sairly entrusted and can be from the beginning safety entrusted to one man, why should we not have in the city at the heads of the great administrative departments just one man and hold him responsible! (Applause)

We have gone all turough that experience in Brooklyn, gentiemen, and I do not believe that Rooklyn will ever Now, gentlemen, let me ask your attention to a

be from the beginning safety entrusted to one man, why should we not have in the city at the heads of the great administrative departments just one man and hold him responsible! [Applause]

We have gone all turough that experience in Brooklyn, gentiemen, and I do not believe that Brooklyn will ever lose that idea until the people lose their interest insections that idea until the people lose their interest in public affairs. They believe in it; they have found not only they man safety at they have found not only they man safety at the hands of a single Commissioner, but they had greater economy and greater efficiency and better administration, by whatever test you wish to try it.

Then, gentlemen, we have in Brooklyn that peculiar chatter, that gives to the Mayor the absolute power of appointment of his heads of departments. They are all single-headed and the Mayor appoints them all. Their terms are ecotemporaneous with that of the Mayor. On February I to becomes the duty of the Mayor to appoint these heads of departments whose term also is for two years. So of departments whose term also is for two years, so of departments whose term also is for two years, so of that each mooming Mayor makes up his advisers and appoints his executive chiefs to suit himself. The people of Brooklyn have tried that experiment with what result! This much I think I can claim unquestionably, that it has interested the people of fit ooklyn in the affairs of Brooklyn as a city as they never were interested before, and that is one thing that the New-England township did for its population. We had a learn of the city of the other choice as the simple concerns of the City of the other choice as the simple concerns of the City of the other choice as the simple concerns of the City of the control of march up to the polis and declare their choice as the simple concerns of the City of the stall on a price to be population so many countries. Those people come to us here because they

gan. There were nonewspapers in those days; therefore, the duty of abusing the principal officer of the Government devolved upon the clery. It is recorded that the mismanagement of Governor Vantwiller was the common talk of the people of this Frovince at that time, and that Domini Bogardi wrote to the Governor many letters upon that subject; and it is even recorded that upon one occasion the good Domini called the Governor the child of the devil, [Laughter.] and that upon another occasion that he did even go so far as to threaten him with a shake from the pulpit. It has been thus from that time to this—not altogether by the clergy. The newspapers have enforced them [laughter.] Having thus informed you—if you did not already know it—that there is something perhaps in the atmosphere of this island that leads to abuse of those who may chance to hold office. I will proceed to apologize for having so poorly prepared myself to respond to this toust. Before doing so, however, it will perhaps be well to mention the fact that the name which was given to the hamlet upon this island 250 years ago has been changed. We now know it as New-York.

Acrose the Bridge is Brocklyn. Brocklyn has always kept ahead of New-York in many respects. It has a charter which permits home rule. That is in advance of us. We agreed with Brocklyn—or the State permitted us to agree with Brocklyn—or the State permitted us to agree with Brocklyn—or the State permitted to dissolve construership with Brocklyn, it will be found that Brocklyn owns a piece of ground, or a piece of bridge, reaching clear over to New-York. So, in that respect, Brocklyn has got ahead of us.

THE DUTIES OF THE MAYOR OF NEW-YORK.

Now, I will give you some reasons why I have not presented myself to respond to this toust. And if there is

Now, I will give you some reasons why I have not prepared myself to respond to this toast. And if there is a legislator within the sound of my voice, I will be glad to have bim listen to what I have say in apology. In the first place, the duties of the Mayor of New-York are peculiar. He has during the present year up to this time sizened 35,000 documents. That is a very simple thing to say, but the theory of the law which compels him to sign those documents is that when he has examined them and affixed his signature to them, the taxpayers are safe and it is all right. Now attached to 30,000 of these documents are at least, on an average, three other documents. Permitting the Mayor to have ten minutes in which to examine those three documents and affix his signature to the other one, and there are 35,000 documents to be examined—allowing him ten minutes to examine the whole and affix his signature, and he has already performed the wonderful task of laboring 486 days of twelve hours each without any intermission. In addition to that, he has received from the Board of Aldermen 1,300 ordinances and resolutions. Permitting half an hour to examine each ordinance or resolution and I should say that of those he has vetoed 370) and to affix his signature or write his veto, and there are 50 days more of twelve hours each without intermission. In addition to this, the sayor must attend to and receive those who call to see him on matters of business of one kind or another. In that way the Mayor of New York has, during the present year, up to the present time, giving three hours each day to that business: therefore he had spent 75 days more, of 12 hours each, without intermission. Consequently the Mayor of New-York, without intermission. It has the day of the this time has performance of any other day, up to this time has performed 611 days work, of twelve hours each, without intermission. It augment, I maddition to that, it is expected of the Mayor of New-York has the different commissioners of the different Departments of the City Government. And, \$\frac{1}{2}\text{ and he must see to it that the money which is properly should be. If he teaves it to the heads of the departments it is st have bim listen to what I have say in apology.

quire very much of his time and attention. In addition to all this he is ex officio a member of eighteen boards of trustees; and all of these must have his attention. So you will see that if the Mayor of New-York has performed his fall duty, as it is contemplated in the law, he has already beaten those who object to a tard term, for he must have labored at least one thousand days of twelve hours each, without intermission. All this should be corrected. I do not say this because I ask of the gentlemen of the New-Ingland society any sympathy. No New-Ingland society any sympathy. No New-Ingland society any sympathy. No New-Ingland society any sympathy no New-Ingland society any sympathy on New-Ingland society any sympathy. No New-Ingland society any sympathy on New-Ingland society any sympathy. No New-Ingland society any sympathy on the growth of the variety of the growth of the carry. Perhaps there is nothing which libastrates more foreiby the growth of the city of New-York is a very carrious affair. The allation which led to the building of the present Croton aqueduct was commenced in 1785, and in 1783 the first step which led to the contracting of the work was taken by the Legislature And here is about the only sympton tand it is a very faint one) of the approach to home rule that New-York can boast of. In 1883 there was introduced in the Legislature a resolution directing the Governor and Senate to appoint and confirm two citizens to investigate the satispact of the water supply of the city of New-York for the next century. Just at that thine, was believed to be all that was necessary to supply the city of New-York for the next century. just of the water supply of the city of New-York. It led to the construction of the Croton Aqueduct; and that can the construction of the Croton Aqueduct; and that the city of New-York for the next contary. Just afty years after, almost to a day, a resolution was introduced in the Senate requesting the Mayor of New-York to appoint five citizens; and the resolution, without the introducer having known it at all was in almost the same words. It was that it will not take so long to complete the new Croton Aqueduct as it did to build and complete the present one,—which was in progress from 1785 to 1843.

I thank you genitemen for listecing to me so patiently, and am grateful for the cordial manner in which you have received me. [Applause.]

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW'S ADDRESS. "I will introduce a stranger to you, who will respond to the last toast-Mr. Chauncey M. Depew," said Mr. Cooper Mr. Depew gave the benediction

said Mr. Cooper Mr. Depew gave the reheated in the following words:

Mm. President: The command of the rear-guard in retreat furnishes the opportunity for a great general, but in a successful assault it leaves him in charge of the baggage wagons and commissary stores. Why upon either bypothesus should I be left to close this memorable night! Your committee are placing the pyramid upon the apex, and applying my the oratory in much the same condition.

gage wagons and commissary stores. Why upon either hypothesis should I be left to close this memorable night! Your committee are placing the pyramid upon the apex, and winding up the oratory in much the same condition as many a belated guest. [Langiter.] I have attended many famous escientations of Porefathers' Day, but none where most of the cloquence, ait and wisdom of the metropolis and from foreign States have paid such uncequaled tributes to New-England past and present.

We have had three glorious hours of unimited and magnificent eulogium; surely it will be a relief if a Judicaman's beneficition places in your hats for your noneward journey the neglected skeleton. The Dake in the opera of "Patience" appeals from taffy to truth, to restore his mental equilibrium and moral digestion. [Languter.] No study is so interesting as the psychological peculiarities of different races. By much observation and some practice I have estimated the capacity of various nationalities for the sweet incense of praise, and tacir ability to endure the praning-kulfe of criticism. I go to the festival on St. Andrew's Day and witness the screne satisfaction with which the Sect listens to the statement that the best poetry and philosophy of the world are his. I attend the St. Patrick celebration, and note the hilarious welcome given by the frishman to the sentiment that he less the announcement that he local the world. I join my Dutchland Hogue of brethren on St. Nicholas night in accepting as undisputed truth the elongists may great the area of the section of these people there can be detected a mental reservation against such sweeping claims except on their national days, none of them will submit to accusation or criticism. Po show up the foliose of st. Patrick disturss the cappupon in shoulder, and the fresholm and progress of the Republic to New-England, of the leavening influences walch are regenerating the race everywhere to her teaching a fine of the mill should have been haptized rather than circumental and moral based on

when the first English Governor, Nichols, captivated by New-York, whole in 1665 to the King that "the strength and flourishing condition of this place will heale the ambitious status of Boston," he little dream of that two hundred and seventeen years afterward there would be no saint's left in Boston (languer), that the Yankees by superior saledly and energy would have controlled most of the business of this city, by marrying Dutch helrosses have become the owners of the best corner lets, and one of their number sit here as our Mayor.

No more startling proof of the doctrine of evolution was ever offered than the programme here to-night. The most graceful and brilliant of the apostles of peace and free thoughts and freedom of action here and is it not a strange thing that a land which men seek for these reasons the only class of people in the whole land that do not enjoy the provinges of voting as they please are the men, or have been the men, in the pubble employ. Therefore I believe in the men, in the pubble employ. Therefore I believe in civil service reform.

We are united now, Mr. Mayor, by a bridge, not divided by a river, and I hope that we shall go on together, striving to eare for ourselves, not by going to Albany, not by saking for out-ide help, but by baving the manihood to say we deserve in better government han we can get for ourselves, and by the grace of God citain good gevernment because we deserve it. [Applause, 1] and the land of the consequence of the Abughty was more potent than His mercy, are represented by the grace of God citain good gevernment because we deserve it. [Applause, 2] and the lenediction is pronounced by a Knick rioceker lawyer. But this statement only marks the changes by which the Furitan has been merged with the modern yankee. With all his faults, his bigotry, his seconclasm, the process of the propheckes, the presented. The entire company rose as he was introduced, and cheered the Mayor of New-York:

This was what Mr. Edson said:

Gentlemen of the Mayor of New-York: I am been this evening principally for two things; first to celebrate with my bothers of New-England this annuiversary of benefathers' bay; and, secondly, to apologize to the New-England Society for having so poorly prepared my of benefathers' bay; and, secondly, to apologize to the new broom of Governor vanviller swept of the feel of the distance in the company. It is recorded that as the new broom of Governor vanviller swept over the hamilets which had been located on the hamilets which had been located on the principal office in the city of New-York, coupled the principal office in the city of New-York coupled the principal office in the city of New-York coupled the principal office in the city o and civil service speaks for Paritan plack and Miles

trines, and the thunders and fervor of the ancient preachers. And thus the faith which in its barsh and forbidding features on New-England soil has caused the pendulum of belief to swing to the other extreme, when blended with the broader and more hospitable features of our Hollandish creeds, has transferred the sceptre of power from Boston to New-York, has made this city the metropolis of the continent, and with far-caping influences across the prairies to the Golden Gate of the Pacifle, has founded and is founding new States upon the soild foundations of universal education and equal rights to all. [Applause.] And now, gentlemen, good-night. The flattened noses of your anxious and watching wives against the window panes are the beacons lighting your homeward paths. May your receptions, notwithstanding this late and untimely hour, be nappy ness, and may you one and all be six months in Heaven before the Devil knows you are dead. [Applause.] you one and all be six months. [Applause,]

After Mr. Depew had spoken the recently elected officers were installed. Mr. Cooper took from his own breast the badge of the office of president and transferred it to the breast of Stewart L. Woodford. He then handed the gavel to Mr. Woodford, and when doing so he thanked the members of the Society for honoring him with the office which he had held for a year. President Woodford said that the best manner in which he could express his ap-preciation of his office was to declare the meeting adjourned. The gavel dropped at 11:59 p. m.

LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS. The chairman of the Dinner Committee, Stewart L. Woodford, received a letter from the pri-

vate secretary of President Arthur explaining his absence to be due to the acceptance of a previous invitation from the New-England Society of Philadelphis for the same evening.

Previous engagements prevented the attendance of ex-President Hayes.

Gen. W. T. Sherman sent the following reply:

912 GARRISON-AVE., St. LOUIS, MO., } Dec. 13, 1883. Dec. 13, 1885.

General STEWART L. Woodford,
No. 18 Wall-st., New-York City.

Dec. 13, 1883.

No. 18 Wall-st., New-York City.

No. 18 Wall-st., New-York City.

Dear General: I have received the kind invitation to your next annual dinner at Delmonico's on Forefathers' Day, December 22d inst., with a card, requesting my answer to be addressed to you. It will be impossible for me to come this year, and I have so often been favored, that I owe the New-England Society of New-York more than a mere formal dinner.

It is a matter of public notoriety that I am but recently re-established at this, my old home, from which I started in 1861, to join the Union Army at Washington City, on the ove of the great civil war. I have been compelled to make changes in the house and premises, which have, as usual, cost about double the estimates, and this will compel me to positive economy for a while. Again, of late years I have travelled about so men that unless I call a halt I will become like the Dutchman with his patient cork leg, which, once started, kept on going, lorever. Therefore, I have pretty much resolved to stay at home close for a year or so, with the exception of the annual visit in Januz-y to Washington as a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian. I beg that you will make to the proper committee my best excusses, and do not fail to assure them that I realize fully the partiality shown me in past years, and wish the members generally to continue to the end of time their annual festivilles, which reflect honor on their ancestors. With great respect, your friend, (W. T. SAERMAN.)

Postmaster-General W. Q. Gresham was detained by the pressure of public duties, but took occasion

by the pressure of public duties, but took occasion to express his hearty sympathy with the spirit of

regrets as he goes South upon the 21st, to appear in court upon a matter of importance to the Govern-Exensing himself by reason of an unexpected business engagement, Minnesota's Senator expressed this sentiment:

That the annual occurrence of this notable gathering may continue to widen that circle of noble charities and good will to men waich has ever characterized the sons of our liberty-loving and God-fearing foretathers of New-England, is the sincere wish of very truly yours, B. M. Salin.

Attorney-General Leslie W. Russell, from his home at Canton, N. Y., wrote: But for a prior engagement to spend Christmas holidays with my little ones, I would giadly avail myself of the pleasure afforded by the invitation, though, doubtless, the

Secretary Lincoln regretted previous engage

ments. Letters were also received from Secretary Chandler, Governor Cleveland and ex-Governor Long, of Massachusetts.

President Cooper read the following telegrams from Philadelphia:

The New-England Society of Pennsylvania, honored with the presence of the distinguished member of your society who dignifies the Chief agistracy of the Republic and who, absent from you, has made graceful allusion to his sucrished home associations, sends cordial greeting to the New-England Society of New York, with glorious memories of Forefathers' Day.

The New Pendand Society of New York returns the

DINNER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22,-The annual dinner of the New-England Society of Pennsylvania was held in this city this evening, at the Continental Hotel. President Arthur and Hon. William E. Chandler, Secretary of the Navy; Thomas B. Reed, of Maine; Joseph R. ester from Connecticut, and the Rev. Dr. guests who sat about the festive board.

In response to the toast, "The President of the United In response to the toast, "The President of the Chair-man, that my enjoyment of this annual dinner has been somewhat marred by the knowledge that I should be at this moment dining with my own chapter of this New-England Society, and that it has been the act of again-doning my brethren of the New-York branch of the Society which has brought me within reach of your generous hospitality. But what difference can it make whether I dine in Philadelphia or in New-York! The President cannot be in both cities at once. Indeed, I have heard it said that it is only a

only say that I wish long me way, moters. [Appliance.] moters. [Appliance.] to the toast. "The Army and Navy," the Corresponds: to the toast. "Secretary of the Navy, pair In response to the toast. "The Army and Navy," the Hon. William E. Chandler, Secretary of the Navy, paid trionles to tenerals Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, and expressed the hope that "a grateful Congress and a willing President" would restore the former soldier to the rolls of the Army. In reference to the Navy he spoke strongly in favor of what he termed "a complete restoration," with the doing away of all the old wooden slips and smooth-bore guns, and the sub-titution of steel slips and high-power cannon, of which we have not one single specimen to show. In the cours of his remarks, he spoke in praise of the steamers of the American Steamship Company as being the only line of toreign-going steamers slying the American flag; whereupon N. Parker Shortridge, a director of the American Steamship Company arose and said finat the company was negotiating for the sale of the sales, as they could not be made to pay walle run under the American flag that could be under the ensign of Great Britain. This statement was not re-

INTERESTS OF REAL-ESTATE MEN.

Business was dull last week among the real estate brokers. The principal incident was the organization of the new Exchange. A strife that is to be regretted took place over the election of directors, but dealers now say that the bitter feeling but dealers now say that the bitter feeling aroused has largely subsided in the last few days. The subscribers met yesterday, approved the minutes of last Thursday's meeting and appointed the following committee to consider the proposed site of the Exchange, Nos. 59-63 Liberty-st.: James M. Varnum, Join D. Crimmins, James R. Smith, Horace S. Ely, John H. Sherwood, S. Van R. Cruger and H. H. Cammans. There is little doubt that this site will be chosen as the most economical and available. Of course it will be a year yet before the building can be altered for the purpose intended.

a year yet before the building can be altered for the purpose intended.

The contest over the election and the usual dulness of the holiday season checked transactions, But prices continue to be firm, and at the auction sales last week the property sold was subjected to spirited bidding. Little was done at private sale, however, and the most important transactions were as follows: Macley & Davies sold No. 8 East Seventy-fifth-st, for \$65,090, and two lots in Seventy-fifth-st, east of Fifth-ave, for the same amount. Four lots in Eighty-eighth-st, west of Ninth-ave, have been sold by E. M. Freeman & Co. for \$18,000. R. H. Wolff & Co. purchased thirty-five lots in One-hundred-and-seventeenth and One-hundred-and-eighteenth-sts., on the East River, where a large factory is to be creeted. A sale on private terms was announced of seventeen houses, having a frontage of 132 feet in Greenwich-ave, opposite Jackson-sq. Several vacant lots changed hands for the purpose of immediate improvement.

FATALLY HURT BY AN ELEVATED TRAIN.

Annie Sestauber, age fourteen, who was employed in the eigar factory of J. Landauer, on First-ave., near Forty-first-sl., died at her home, No. 186 Rivington-st., on Friday afternoon, from injuries received at Rivington Station, on the Second Avenue Elevated Railroad. On her way to work in the morning she attempted to enter a crowded train. The train started suddenly, o enter a crowded train. The train started suddenly, and she was crushed between the moving car and the platform. She was taken up unconscious. Before her death she recovered consciousness and said that she had just stepped on the car with one foot when the gate was shammed shut, the train started and she fell. That was all she could remember.

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS.

THE STREETS THRONGED WITH SHOPPERS. HEAVILY-LADEN TRAINS LEAVE THE DEPOTS-GRAND

STREET AT NIGHT.

The near approach of Christmas was made apparent everywhere in the streets yesterday. Large crowds of bustling, laughing, merry people, sizes, who jostled one another good-naturedly on the slippery sidewalks, have not been seen for many a day. Fourteenth-st., from Union Square to Sixth-ave., was almost impassable for several hours in the afternoon, and along Sixth-ave. and Broadway and the leading thoroughfares there were great streams of people surging to and fro. The stores were crowded to overflowing and only the persevering could force their way through. Carriages and sleighs were out in force, and at such crossings as that at Twenty-third-st. and Fifth-ave, the hand-some policemen had almost more than they could do to pilot their fair charges safely over. Pedestrians througed Fifth-ave, and braved the cutting winds, exchanging greetings with one another and with persons who drove by. Glimpses through many a window showed ing together charmingly. Twigs of mistletoe with branches of berries adorned the dresses of many of the lady promenaders.

NIGHT IN THE HUB OF THE EAST SIDE Grand-st. on Saturday night has always been one of the sights of New-York; but on the Saturday before Christnas Grand-st, about eight o'clock becomes the Hub of the whole East side. Last night the street from the Bowery whole East side. Last ingut the street that the river was filled with men, women and children, who were all happy and all spending money. They could not help themselves. The business part of Grandest, was a succession of honey-pots and the flies of humanity were bound to come to them. The honey-pot with the sweetest honey, and the one where the flies gathered in swarms and buzzed furiously, was Ridley's. The place occupies nearly an entire block, and, at the present season, the whole five floors and basement are converted into a gleantic bazaar. Nearly everyby by in Grandest, were either in front of Ridley's, going to Ridley's or coming from Ridley's.

Outside the store was a great crowd, attracted by the electric are lights, and people would stand, and caze, and get in the way of everybody clase. Within the doors, there was such a scene of bustle, such a hum of voices, such a gilter of high colors, that the children's heads were turned, and they did not thoroughly recover themselves until they had monated to the tidrif door, and found themselves in the presence of a michty mutitude of doils. They were of all sizes, all complexions and all styles of beauty. A few were dressed in the highest style of the fashion, but the majority were in a costume that su, gester bed-time. Besides the doils, there was everything that the widest female imagination could dream of, in the way of fancy-goods, dolmans, plushes, brocades, hats, feathers, linen, etc. to the river was filled with men, women and children

CROWDS DEPARTING FROM THE CITY. At the Grand Central Depot the pressure of holiday travel made itself felt as the hours passed the meridian. After 3 o'clock there were deepening excitement and boisterous, balf-hilarious confusion. The "cubbles" were clustered more thickly than usual along the Forty-second-st. front. ous, half-hilarious confusion. The "cabbles" were clustered more thickly than usual along the Forty-second-st. front. A peep through the glass doors discovered all the long platforms filled with made-up trains awaiting the outgoing through the enter one of the late ones were moved out in two or more sections. Everyoody was in a royal humor. Baggage-smashers smasned wildly and benighandly. Porters were on the lookout for a joily set-to to keep off the childs, and the deepending throng as it poured into the depots seemes; glowing with good-will. Mostly the passengers were returning to the country, loaded down with all manner of bundles, parcels and packages, reputable of desceputable. Now and then the first that the first that the second of the child of the child of the childs of the childs. Skulking way, was seen. All the outlying world had been e-fairing in New-York, and the innumerable barnars must have experienced a lively deptendent. It is wonderful how many parcels a dainty hady or gentheman can manage to carry at Christimas without loss of dentity or good hatter. The Hudson River trains, the liartent and the New Haven, all seemed choked to their most obliging capacity, and where the parcels, bundles, packages and addenda all went is an unexplained mystery. The areat gate-doorways opened and yawed for the rapidly sacceeding trains like vast since ways hindering a swoilen stream; and yet the stream kept memacing the gate-loors unreleved of its tremensious congestion. Officials were for the moment bland and beaming, and tlekets were dispensed with amiliar urbanity. Old Jacob New-Hayen, did to the single of courtesy, whose smile and all, over his gold-rimmed of courtesy, didect smile and all, over his gold-rimmed of courtesy, didect smile and all, over his gold-rimmed spectacles, seemed their and all, over his gold-rimmed of courtesy, didect smile and all, over his gold-rimmed appearance.

ata Claus. The New-York Centrol Railroad Company will make

THE STRAIN UPON THE EXPRESS COMPANIES. The facilities of the express companies and the temper of their employes for the last few days have been put to a severe test in handling the number of holi-day packages delivered to them. But although the men have been working night and day, with little sleep, they have been working night and day, with little sleep, they have preserved a wonderful amount of good nature. Nearly all the companies have been compelled to employ extra men, and trucks and furniture vans have been hired wherever they could be found. At the office of the American Express Company, Mr. Berry, the general agent, said yeaterday that, as usual, customers presented bandboxes, filled with glass ware and other brittle things, which they assured the clerks had been safely packed. He had had a label "fractle," prepared, which saved the clerks from answering many questions, and made the customers feel happy when they saw it pasted on their packages. The up-town offices of this company were filled with parcels, and the freight house at Madison-ave, and Forty-eighth-st, was crowded. At the office of Wels, Fargo & Co., the superintendent said that the increase in the number of packages going to Europe was larger than usual, and that there was considerable pressure on their ineas in the West.

office of weak, rargo x. The surpress going to Europe was larger than usual, and tout there was considerable pressure on their lines in the west.

William Hoey, superintendent of the Adams Company at the office in East Twenty-third-st, was doing the la- or of the clerks. He said that his company would probably receive 18,000 packages ye-terday, and that they would all be distributed before. The sday morning. On Friday, 680 turkeys were distributed to the employes.

Erastus Wiman, president or the Staten Island Railway and Ferry Company, has ordered that a large turkey, at least seven pounds in weight, be presented to each of the married employes of the company. The sincle mean will not get any, unless they are the sele support of a family.

not get any, unless they are the sole support of a family. About 1,100 pounds of turkey will be required.

RAILEOAD INTERESTS.

VANDERBILT SECURES A NEW FRANCHISE. [BT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

PITTSBURG, Dec. 22.-Several months ago it was stated that the chief reason why the contracts for the onstruction of the Harrisburg and Western Railroad Vanderbilt's line across the southern portion of the State, were not awarded, was the fact that the only eligible oute for a railroad through that territory was held by E. K. Hyndman, of this city, and that he was not disposed to surrender the franchise. Mr. Hyndman, as is well known, has held prominent positions in the Baltimore and Ohio and the Pittsburg and Western Railroad management. He was the first president of the Junction road, and is now engaged in extensive railroad enterprises in the South. project of building a railroad across the State to connect the Reading and Vanderbilt systems, was first seriously nsidered, a company was organized by local capitalists. under the name of the Pittsburg and Atlantic Railroad company. A charter was obtained and a line located from shippensharg, the western terminus of the Reading, to Snippeusburg, the western terminus of the Reading, to Connellsville, where the Vanderbilt lines could be tapped. Mr. Hyndman purchased the Pittsburg and Atlantic franchise for \$25,000. Vanderbilt's agents spent several months in an endeavor to induce him to sell, but did not succeed. Then the engineer corps were sent out, and a new line, with heavy grades, long tunnels and bridges, was surveyed. Mr. Hyndman was given to know that his franchise was not wanted at any price, He did not throw it in the market, however, but smiled cynically whenever statements were publised concerning the intentions of Vanderbilt. To-day it leaked out that a short time ago the Vanderbilt agents remewed negotiations with Mr. Hyndman, and at last they have received the coveted franchise, and are in a position to build the H-rrisburg and Western as soon as they desire. The amount Mr. Hyndman is to receive is one of the things that cannot be ascertained at prosent, but it is known that it is be represented by stock, and the parvalue of this is estimated to be all the way from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000.

THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY ROAD. (BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.)

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 21.-An Associated Press dispatch from Harrisonburg, Virginia, yesterday, announcing the sale of the Washington, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad to the Shenandoah Valley Railroad Company, has considerable significance to railroad men and coal operators in this section. The line is designed to extend from some point on the Shenandoah Valley Rail-road to one of the small towns on the Baltimore and Ohlo Railroad, and thence into the valuable property of the Shenandoah Coal and Land Company. For some time past no work has been done in the company's mines, ow ing to a lack of facilities for transportation, but as soon as the new railroad is finished the mines will be operated on a large scale. This will be in direct opposition to the Pennsylvania coal interests. The Shenandoah Coal and Land Company owns, in fee, 10,000 acres of land and the right to the minerals on 80,000 acres for 170 years. The chief markets for this coal are Baltimore, 185 miles; Washington, 145 miles; Etchmond, 145 miles; and Cincinnati, St. Louis, Louisville and other Western cities. Messrs. Booth & Garrett, of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Professor R. P. Stevens, of New-York, and others, nave visited these coal lands; and, from borings to a depth of but 125 feet below the valicy, found seven veins of coal with a total thickness of 32 test 10 inches, while at a distance of 300 feet from the outcop of the shaft aircady sunk a vein of seven feet of pure anthractics was struck. ng to a lack of facilities for transportation, but as se

AN IOWA POOL CONFERENCE. The Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company has not yet applied for admission to the triple alliance recently made by the Union Pacific and the St. Paul and the Rock Island Railroad Companies. All the

roads which recently composed the towa pool have been invited to attend a meeting at Omaha on next Thursday. Those which have already assented to the new agree ment will be represented, and the Chicago and North ment will be represented, and the Chicago and North-western will be present by its General Manager, Marvin Hughitt. It is not known whether the Chicago, Burling-ton and Quincey will send a representative to the meeting. It is said to be improbable that either of these two com-panies will join the alliance until after the meeting at Omaha. At the office of the Northwestern road it was said vesterday that the action of the conference.

The Harlem River Railroad Company has filed the map of its proposed route in the Register's office at White Plains. The road is projected from the junction York roads above Woodlawn to the Harlem River at Second-ave. Since the New-Haven management secured control of the New-York and New-England Railroad, it has been stated that this new road would not be built.

MISCELLANEOUS RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE. HARTFORD, Dec. 22 .- At the meeting of the directors of the Connecticut Western Road this afternoon, William L. Gilbert, of Winsted, was elected president, John F. Jones vice-president and superintendent, and E. R. Beardsley secretary and treasurer. Frederick Miles and Thomas Miles were chosen executive committee.

TROY, Dec. 22 .- On March 1, when the New-York Central withdraws from the Hoosac Tunnel fast freight line, the business will be done by the Delaware and Hudson, Troy and Boston, Fitchburg and Eric roads, the latter having the place of the Central. Eric's Eastern business is included in the agreement.

At a meeting of the directors of the Wyoming, Yellow stone Park and Pacific Railway Company, held in this city yesterday, L. D. Shoemaker, of Wilkesbarre, Penn., was elected president; Colonel D. H. Wallace, of Neweastle, Penn., vice-president; H. M. Munsell, secretary; James G. Powers, treasurer; and John R. Bothwell, man-a ing director. The company will begin work next

MISCELLANEOUS WASHINGTON NEWS.

END OF THE SPENCER CONTEMPT CASE. Washington, Dec. 22.-In the Criminal Court this morning, in the case of ex-Senator Spencer for contempt, Judge Wylle rendered his accision. The Judge held that the subpeens was not a subpeens because there was no penalty to it. It ordered the ex-Senstor to appear, but limited the time to one day. The subpœna, by error of counsel for Government, the Judge said, was for a civil and not for a criminal case. The ex-Senator had sworn that he was here before the time ordered by the so-called subpena; that he remained here for two weeks; that he had sought interviews with one of weeks; that he had sought interviews with one of the counsel during the interim, but had been unable to secure one. Under these circumstances, and owing to the fact that the subpens had been improperly served and returned, the Judge held that the case was not one for contempt, and discharged the prisoner. During his remarks Judge Wylle said there was no doubt that the object of the ex-Senator in going abroad last year was to avoid the Star Route trial.

Mr. Spencer says he contemplates bringing a suit for damages. In an interview to-day he said an investigation of the Star Route trials by Congress would be urged, the object being to learn why some persons were tried and others were not, and why so much money was paid to Government attorneys. "Dorsey," he said, "was but a small rry in the Star Koute cases. There are Western men deeper in than he."

A DEVIL FISH, NOT A SEA SERPENT. Washington, Dec. 22.-The report of Captain Green of the Life Saving Service, in regard to the ap pearance of a sea serpent off Long Branch, a few weeks ago, was referred to Professor Baird, of the Smithsonian Institution, who has written to Mr. Kimball, General Superintendent of the Life-Saving Service, on the subject as follows: "On carefully considering this matter, I have no difficulty in identifying the object referred to as the 'devil fish of South Carolina, 'or 'manta of Spanish America.' This is a huge sting ray, a fish with projections on each side of the snout, by means of which it sometimes picks up the anchor of a good-sized boat and carries it the anchor of a good-sized boat and carries it off, towing the boat at a high rate of speed out to sea, very much to the alarm of the crew. In the old Peale Museum, famous in Philadelphia forty years ago, there was a stuffed skin of one taken in the belaware River that measured 25 feet across the flappers—its length was somewhat less than this. It is not likely that the animal seen by the men of the Lifersaving station was as large as they said, they being probably deceived by supposing it to be much further off than was really the case. The blow-holes were the gill openings on each side of the neck, some distance from the sneut."

Washington, Dec. 22,-Captain Chambers nartial at Port Sucling, Minn., on charges of having duplicated his pay accounts, has been sentenced by the court to a short suspension, not exceeding a year. It is thought that the sentence will probably mitigated by the President, as it was shown in the trial that Captain Me-Kibben's duplication resulted from negligence rather than from interation to defruid.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.-Captain Albert E. Woodson, Fifth Cavalry, who was tried by court-martial at Port Niobrara for disobedience of orders, has been ac-

quitted and restored to duty.
First Lieutenant John J. Deherty, Eleventh Infantry, and will toin his company in the Department of Dakota First Licutenant Ernst A. Garlington, Seventh Cavalry First Lieutenant Ernst A. Garlington, Seventh Cavalry, has been placed on waiting orders. First Lieutenant William A. Dinwiddle, Second Cavalry, has been ordered to report by letter to the President of the Army Retiring Board, convened at Washington Barracks, District of Commids, for examination when summoned. Major Samuel B. M. Young Third Cavalry, has been detailed as a member of the Army Retiring Board convened at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; Colonel John J. Coppinger, Eighteenth Infantry, relieved, to take effect to-day.

MR. BRUCE DECLINES TO SERVE. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.-Ex-Senator Bruce of Mississippi, who was recently appointed a member at large of the National Colored Men's committee, has deelined the appointment. The Committee is still in session here. Most of the members are represented by proxies. There are said to be only six or seven elected delegates.

WASHING ON NOTES.

Washington, Saturday, Dec. 22, 1883. THE DEPARTMENTS AND THE HOLIDAYS.—The Post-Office Department will remain open on Monday, but the other Departments will be closed on that day as well as on Christmas and New-Year's day.

EXTRA PAY FOR DISCHARGED EMPLOYEE'S,-The dishargest employe's of the two houses of Congress were iven one month's extra pay to-day, the President having

PRESENTATIONS TO RETIRING OFFICERS.-Francis E. PRESENTATIONS TO RETHEING OFFICERS.—Francis E.,
Shober, of North Carolina, the retiring acting Secretary
of the Senate, was to-day presented with a silver set by
the clerks and employes in his office as a token of their
respect and esteem. His successor, General Anson McCook, asked to be permitted to contribute to the purchase
of the testimonial. The employes in the office of the
Sergeant-al-Arms of the Senate during Colonel R. J.
Bright's term have purchased a gold watch and chain
which they will present to him next week.

SERGENDER, FROM PRACTICE.—The Secretary of the In-

SUSPENDED FROM PRACTICE.—The Secretary of the In-Suspension From Front Francisco Sefere the Pension Office N. W. Fitzgerald, S. C. Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald & Co. and A. B. Webb, pension attorneys of this city, pending the disposition of the indictments recently returned against them by the Grand Jury charging fraudulent practice. In the Criminal Court to-day N. W. and S. C. Fitzgerald and A. B. Webb were admitted to ball in the sum of \$2,000 cach.

THE GREELY RELIEF COMMISSION.—The Commission THE GREELY RELIEF COMMISSION.—The Commission appointed to prepare a plan of operations for the relief of Lieutenant Greely and party at Lady Franklin Bay met at the Navy Department to-day. The session was devoted to a general disen sion of Arctic navigation and individual expressions of plans for the proposed relief expedition. Captain William H. Clapp was further examined before the Proteus Court of Inquiry to-day, but his testimony was little more than an elaboration of that before

DEATH OF EX-GOVERNOR R. P. LOWE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.-Ex-Governor Ralph P. Lowe, of Iowa, died a few minutes before ten o'clock to-night. He has been slowly sinking for several days, and his death was expected. He was born in Montgomer, County, Ohio, in 1805, and settled in Iowa in 1839. He County, Onio, in 1805, and settled in Iowa in 1839. He served his adopted state as District Judge, Justice of the Supreme Court, of which he became Chief Justice, and Governor. He has been practising law in Washington since about 1875. He came here originally as agent of the State of Iowa to settle claims against the Federal

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE LOTOS CLUB.

The Lotos Club gave one of its Saturday night entertainment last evening. There was no art exhibition, but there was a varied musical and literary pro-

DYING AT THE CONFESSIONAL.

While at confession in the Roman Catholic Thurch, at Richard and Verona sts., yesterday evening, Patrick Murray, 33 years of age, a soldier at the Gov-ernor's Island garrison, fell dead.

LOOKING FOR HIS DAUGHTER,

Dr. E. H. Spooner, of No. 776 De Kalb-ave., night to inquire after his daughter, Miss Ellen Spooner, age twenty. He said that she came to New-York yester, day intending to go shopping up-town, and then to meet a friend at the Liberty-st. ferry at 1 p.m. Her friend did not see her and she did not return home. Her family be-Brooklyn, went to Police Headquarters in this city las

came alarmed on account of her absence, believing that she had met with a serious accident.

THE COURTS.

MISSOURI PACIFIC BOOKKEEPING.

CLINTON B. FISK'S TESTIMONY AS TO HIS REPORT MADE IN 1873.
The examination of Clinton B. Fisk was continued before Referee Theodore W. Dwight in the Marié-Garrison suit yesterday. Roscoe Conkling did not make his appearance until some time after the referee had read his decision upon a legal question raised by the de-

fence the day previous.
"I am afraid Conkling was out last evening and so has been indulging in a late breakfast," said Mr. Beach, with

a significant smile.

Mr. Fisk was questioned upon the report that be had

read at a meeting held in St. Louis in 1873, in which the officers of the Atlantic and Pacific endeavored to remove all fears and dissatisfaction from the minds of the stockholders in regard to the soundness of the road and the manner in which it had been managed.

Mr. Beach-Was Commodore Garrison present when you

art. hesen—was commodore carrison present when you read that report?
Mr. Fisk—Yea.
Mr. Beach—Did you read it in such a tone of voice that he could understand what you said?
Mr. Fisk—Yes, and at the close of the meeting he complimented me upon the manner in which I had presented

plimented me upon the manner in which I had presented it.

Mr. Beach—What was your position in the company at the time this report was made I

Mr. Fisk—I was treasurer and secretary. In my former capacity, I received all moneys and paid out all disbursements: in the latter, I kept the records and acted as President Pierce's secretary in making out the annual reports.

Mr. Beach—From what sources did you obtain the materials employed in preparing this particular report!

Mr. Fisk—From the auditor's papers.

Mr. Beach—Did President Pierce ever, to your knowledge, order any alterations to be made in the books from which your report was made up!

Mr. Fisk—Mr. Pierce instructed the bookkeeper, William A. Hayes, to so keep his books as to snow the exact expenditures of the Mis-our Pacific and its leased lines in distinction from the Atlantic Pacific proper. Up to that time they had not been so kept.

Mr. Beach—But were no changes made by which the affairs of the road were made to appear in a different light than they really were in!

Mr. Fisk—Only as I have already stated.

The case was adjourned to Friday, January 3.

KNIBBS VALVE PATENT SUIT. Boston, Dec. 22.-In the United States Circuit Court fo-day, in the patent suit of Marcus P. Norton and another against the city of Boston, which has been on trial for several lays, the jury returned a verdict for the defendant. This was an action to recover \$450,000 for an infringement of what is known as the Knibbs patent for improvement in steam and fire engines, consisting ent for improvement in steam and fire engines, consisting of a short pipe and valves which control and regulate tuo supply and discharge of water in the hose. This is a case of great importance to all cities and towns using steam fire engines, as it was the first of a series of suits for the recovery of a royaity on the Kuibbs valve, which the jury has declared by its verdict to have been antedated.

MME, LABLACHE EVADES THE REPORTERS

Mme. Emilia Lablache, of Mr. Abbey's Opera Company, appeared before Judge McAdam in the City Court, Chambers, at 11 a.m., yesterday, on an order to show cause why she should not pay \$225 to Mme. Emma Soule, the dressmaker of No. 286 Fifth-ave. This sum, in the eyes of Mmc. Soulé, was an equivalent for a black satin dress and a black satin cloak, a judgment for which amount was obtained about eighteen mouths ago. Mme. Lablache was accompanied by Mr. Leonard, the chief clerk of Messra Oliu, Rives & Montgomery, her counsel-Mme. Soulé was represented by her husband and Mr. the oath to tell the whole truth and nothing outside it, and then all concerned in the suit went over to the Court House to find a room where the testimony could be taken Mme. Lablache grew visibly nervous, and after reaching the Court House, held an earn est conversation with Mo Leonard. The result of this was that Mr. Leonard rushed out of the Court House toward the City Hall. He met Judge McAdam just outside the entrance, whereupon this

conversation took place:
Mr. Loonard-Judge, Madame Lablache doesn't want
any reporters around to hear her testimony. Can't you
order a private hearing and keep the newspaper men

order a private hearing out!
Judge McAdam-Why, bless you, I shall have all the newspapers down on me! I have no right to do anything of the kind. I've got to draw 1,400 jurors now, and I'll hear you at 2 o'clock.
Mr. Leonard-But Mme. Lablache sings at the mati-

selves."

The information that she must give her testimeny in the presence of members of the press had a great effect on Mme. Lablache, for after a hurried consultation between the two lawyers and the contraito, Mr. Delahanty made

the two lawyers and the contraite, Mr. Delahanty made the anouncement:
"The case is settled. Mme. Lablacne agrees to pay \$50 down and to give an order for \$25 a month on the treas-urer of the Metropolitan Opera House, until the debt is paid." Mme. Lablache then hastily departed, and Mrs. Sould

STEALING FARES IN THE STAGES.

A tall lady, richly dressed, well advanced in years, entered a Fifth-ave. stage, near Forty-second-st., yesterday. A lad of seventeen and a TRIBUNE reporter pulled the bell-cord and laid the money in the driver's tching palm. The driver handed back a nickel. The lad pussed it to the lady. She rose to place it in the box, and finally did so in spite of the expostulations and explanations of the lad that the driver had already taken her fare. Then she demanded her change from the driver, and was curtly told to collect the next nickel that came in. A crusty old gentleman took the stage at Thirty-thrid-st. The old lady demanded his fare. He sniffed suspiciously, put it in the box and looked out of the window to avoid her savage glances. She presently rose up indignantly, pulled the bell-cord vicoroesly, and demanded her change. The driver pulled up short. A doa de sieigh bumped the wheel on one side, and a couple of horses ran their nosed against the rear window. A blockade became probable. Meanwhile the old lady was ringing the b-li and demanding "that nickel." The old man wanted to know of the reporter if the old lady was ringing the b-li and dealled out to the driver, "There's a bobby coming." The driver promptly gave the old lady was crazy, and the bid called out to the driver, "There's a bobby coming." The driver promptly gave the old lady was crazy, said the driver to the reporter as the blockade was avoided. "It's a — cold day," said the driver to the reporter as the latter got out at a ferry down town, "It's a cold day when a cllow can't even get a nickel without raising a fusslike that. "The crowded condition of stage travel the past week has been a harvest to dishonest drivers. A reporter, who has occasion to frequently use the Broadway busses, kept tally for three days, and witnessed stealing amounting to §2 SO. A singular fact is that a large proportion of the passengers sympathize with the thieving drivers. The case above related is the one exception in live. his fare. He sniffed suspiciously, put it in the box and

A TRAMP'S REVENGE.

Augustus Gardner, who is employed as a watchman for the Stewart House, at Fifth-ave. and Thirty-fourth-st., about three weeks ago saw a tramplurk-ing about the court-yard of the house. The fellow was hustled into the street. Yesterday the same man was seen to pass through the gate, and Gardner asked seen to pass through the gate, and Gardner assect him what he wanted. "This is what I want." replied the intruder, as he drew a revolver and fired. The bullet pierced Gardner's clothing, but only scratched the skin. He held the fellow until the arrival of Captain Garland, who took him to the Jefferson Market Police Court. The prisoner said his name was Frederick Gustav Hostman, and that he had no home. He assigned no cause for his act. He was held in \$1,000 bail for trial.

THE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN TO ORGANIZE.

The Old Volunteer Firemen held a meeting at Military Hall last evening, ex-Chief John Decker pre-siding, to finish up the work of the Evacuation Day parade. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$113 06, which it was voted to give to the Widows and Orphaus' Fund. A committee of fifteen was appointed to organize a Volunteer Fireman's Association of the City of New-York.

SERIOUSLY HURT ON THE BRIDGE.

Michael Supple, of No. 229 Bridge-st., Brooklyn, while at work on one of the electric lamps of the Bridge, near the Brooklyn entrance, lost his footing and

MEETING OF IRONSIDES COUNCIL. Ironsides Council, No. 606, of the American Legion of Honor, held their annual election last night at their rooms, No. 220 East-Fifteenth-st. Resolutions of

sympathy for the Commander-elect, George E. Trembly, in view of the recent death of his wife, were adopted. GIFTS ASKED FOR AN ORPHAN ASYLUM. Contributions are solicited for a dinner on Cristmas day at the Colored Orphan Asylum, One hunded-and-forty-third-st and Tenth-ave., also toys books, &c. Gifts may be left with Mrs. Tuber, No. 114 East Twenty-ninth-st, or at the Asylum.

TRAINS BLOCKED BY SNOW.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.) HARTFORD, Dec. 22,-The snow-fall of this week in the northern part of the State has been heavy, and trains on nearly all railroads are many hours behind. Freight trains are at a stand-still, and on some of the sin-